

Series I  
Correspondence,  
1932-1973

Box 4, Folder 27

January 2, 1973 -  
October 25, 1973

0566

2 January 1973

Dear Mr. Sinclair:

I am enclosing herewith a photograph that I cut from the Wednesday, the 27 December, edition of the Providence Daily News. I had been wondering where you were, as I had endeavored to contact you, but to no avail, as you were away. Now I know where you most likely were. I am indeed delighted that one of the Naval War College Foundation Founder Members has become a member of the Naval Academy Board of Visitors. Congratulations!

With best wishes for a Happy New Year, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Mr. Joseph Sinclair  
The Outlet Company  
176 Weybosset Street  
Providence, Rhode Island

RWB/vjh  
Enclosure

0567

3 January 1973

Dear Eleanor:

Although I have written about this, I endeavored to explain to you over the phone today and discovered that you were visiting in Nassau. Your maid was most amusing and said that you were expected to be back home in Chicago about 5 January. It is on that very date that the Naval War College Foundation is holding a special meeting of Trustees because of an important change of the staff, which I wrote you about on December 22nd.

Your maid was very anxious to be on the ball but she does not seem to be familiar with flag officers of the Navy. I told her to tell you on your return that Admiral Bates had called. She replied something to the effect "Yes Mr. Admiral, I will tell her." I replied, "No, I am Admiral Bates, you know, an Admiral who commands warships. You know, Admiral of the Fleet." She answered right up "OK Mr. Admiral of the Fleet." It was some time before I convinced her that my name was Bates. Very amusing indeed!

I hope that your trip to Nassau was as happy as you had expected and that you and Billy are very well indeed.

Christmas and New Years here was fine and the weather was generally good.

Once again let me thank you for your chocolate cookies, which I am enjoying very much.

With best wishes for a most happy New Year, I am,

Very sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Mrs. William Wood Prince  
2430 Lake View  
Chicago, Illinois 60614

RWB/vjh

0568

19 April 1973

Gentlemen:

Since I left for California early January until today, I have heard nothing from your firm. As you know, one of your representatives was here last Fall and I made a deal with him about entering my biography in your National Cyclopedia of American Biography. I accepted his suggestion that I have my picture entered as well. He wanted me to put up the \$525.00 right away to which I replied that I would do so presently but I wished to see my biography. What happened? I got a bill for the \$525.00 but I did not see what you had produced as my biography. Obviously, the gentleman referred to above, felt that the picture was all important, but that the biography was not necessarily so. And yet your volumes are named biographies.

I consider my biography to be highly important to me.

What now?

Happy Easter!

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

The National Cyclopedia  
of American Biography  
James T. White & Company, Publishers  
331 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10017

RWB/vjh

0569


Dear Sam:

Please don't feel unhappy with me because I ~~have written~~ <sup>am writing</sup> somewhat late about the passing of your wonderful Priscilla. It is my usual practice to delay such letters, when the family are great friends. However, in Priscilla's case, I heard of her passing somewhat late, and so I thought that I would write as soon as possible. Unfortunately, I was not able to do so as I became an eight day patient at the Navy's Oak Knoll Hospital. I developed blockage of my urethra brought on, possibly, because of an old time carcinoma of the prostate. Anyway, I seem to be OK now so I decided to return to my office in Newport where I arrived on Monday last. I have already reopened my case at the Naval Hospital, Newport, just to keep it alive.

And now I wish to talk about your heroic Priscilla. And she truly was heroic. She had been ill for a long time, but she never gave up. I recall that, on the occasion of the dedication of Spruance Hall, I had the good fortune to sit beside her at the dinner. We had a delightful time together, and we talked about you. Her whole thought was of Sam, and she said (with emphasis) "I cannot afford to die. I have to live for Sam and his books. And so, I am going to fight on to 'keep him alive'." And she meant it - she radiated it - and she looked beautiful. What a wonderful person she was!

Mailed - 24 Apr 73

0570

 All of the Navy who knew her idolized her. She was a woman for the ages. Her friends knew that she was very ill, that she was living for you, and that she never complained of her physical problems. Even when she was talking to me at dinner, as mentioned above, I do not recall that she ever mentioned her illness, excepting to talk about you and her need to outlive you.

Well, she did not do so, but I feel certain that, in a sense, she did for I feel confident that her faith in you will have the effect of forcing you to finish the work which you are presently working on. And I have reason to believe that you are doing just that for I was talking to Clarke Mays of Providence this morning over the phone, and he said that he had met you in Rio de Janiero only a few days ago and that he understood that you were continuing your work on Magellan. How happy Priscilla would be to know that!  
And who am I to say that she doesn't know it?

12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840  
4 May 1973

Transportation Garage  
10 Downing Street  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Gentlemen:

I am in receipt of your bill dated 29 April 1973. This bill is incorrect. I accept the charge of \$60.00 for the storage of my automobile, but I do not accept the charge of \$30.00 for repairing my right after fender. As I said to you some days ago, I asked to have a door repaired, and not the right rear fender. How you happened to work on the right rear fender is not clear.

My deal with you was to have the right rear door repaired for \$60.00. You found out that you could not repair it without a much higher charge because of a strength member fore and aft on the door. You, therefore, correctly decided to take no action on this door. Instead, you polished the right rear fender and that was that.

So, I have decided that, although I owe you nothing on this fender, I will split the \$30.00 and pay you \$15.00 for the work you have done, even though unauthorized and unnecessary.

Very truly yours,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

RWB/vjh  
Enclosure

0572

General Smith:-

On behalf of Admiral Beary and of the officers of the War College, I proudly accept this Marine Corps Color. To Naval Officers a Marine Corps color is of particular significance as it represents all that is best in the military virtues. When I look at its red color - I know that ~~this color was to represent~~ <sup>especially chosen</sup> ~~a great chosen human virtue.~~ <sup>it especially selected</sup> ~~Do you know what it was?~~ Well, long ago the Continental Congress decreed that the "red" of the National Ensign should represent "hardiness and valor" When I think of Tarawa and Bloody Nose Ridge and Iwo Jima and Okinawa, I can tell you, sir, that in my opinion and surely in our nations opinion, never was color more aply chosen.

Please convey to the ~~Major General~~ <sup>of the Marine Corps</sup> Commandant the thanks of Admiral Beary and of the officers of this War College for the gift of this color which will remain in this stand as an ever present reminder of the ~~soldiers of the sea~~ <sup>valors of the United States</sup> Marines -

W. R. F. Bates

0573



Gentlemen:

As you perhaps know, Admiral Beary considered it highly important that the War College be supplied with the color of each of the ~~principal military branches of the government~~ <sup>military services</sup>. For that reason he requested that each ~~branch~~ <sup>service</sup> provide one color to be placed with the other colors in a stand, ~~and to indicate there-  
under~~ <sup>the Royal Warrant to</sup> ~~by~~ the unity of all ~~branches~~ <sup>services</sup>. All ~~branches~~ <sup>services</sup> complied with this request, ~~and~~ <sup>except</sup> for the Marine Corps color, all other colors have been received. Today we are to receive the Marine Corps color.

The ~~Major General~~ Commandant of the Marine Corps very kindly honored the War College by designating his Assistant Commandant Major General Oliver P. Smith to present this color.

It gives me therefore great pleasure to present this distinguished officer to you.

General Smith.

Rev. T. Bates

0574

12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840  
16 May 1973

Dear Mr. Carney:

Today I was advised by a prominent automobile concern that my "snow tires" which are nylon and which you sold me last Fall are improper to use with "belted bias" tires, which you also sold me. Fortunately, I have had no trouble, largely because my car was in storage in Newport, while I was on a three month plus visit to Arizona and California.

Now, what I would like to know is this - how correct is the above advice, and if correct, you you happened to make such an error?

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Carney and Fitzgerald  
Connell Highway  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0575



BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES  
845 THIRD AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

30 May 1973

Admiral Richard W Bates  
12 Mount Vernon Street  
Newport  
Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates,

That was a truly splendid luncheon at which you did us honour last Sunday. Sheila and I greatly appreciated it, noting that you arranged the one moment of our visit when the sun actually shone.

It was also more than good of you to turn out again later to participate in the gathering at John's house. I hope you did not get into trouble with your doctors as a result.

You may notice that the Royal Navy is engaged with those Icelanders. If we need any reinforcements from the Clambake Club I will send you a signal. Meanwhile, once again from Sheila and myself, our very sincere thanks and appreciation.

Mrs Sinclair,  
Ham Wymri

W E H Whyte

0576

RICHARD W. BATES  
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND  
02840

7 June 1973

Dear Mr. Whyte:

Thank you very much for your very kind letter of 30 May with your many encomiums relative to the Clambake Club. I think that the Club is entitled to some praise but whether or not our ability extends into the Iceland area has not, as yet, been tested. Frankly, with the Royal Navy thereabouts, the need for reinforcements from the Clambake Club seems entirely illusory. But as our Admiral Sims said many years ago, "since blood is thicker than water," so, possibly, some members of the Clambake Club may rally to help if needed.

I enjoyed your talk at the Slocums, as did the guests. You are very easy on your public, excepting for one item. I do wish you had allowed us to interrogate you. We might have learned some more!

0577

Mr. W. E. H. Whyte

7 June 1973  
Page 2.

With warmest regards to you and to  
Mrs. Whyte, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. W. E. H. Whyte  
British Information Services  
845 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

RWB/vjh

0578

12 June 1973

Dear Hickman:

I was very impressed with your kind remarks contained in your letter of 26 May, relative to the Annual Report of the Clambake Club for the year 1972.

But don't get too taken in! While it is true that we did very well indeed, it is not necessarily so for this year. As I see it each year is a separate entity and is dependent upon prices, kitchen lore, new memberships, whether or not the cottage is occupied, and finally upon whether or not the members use the club. We have a heavy overhead!

Actually, we were not in the "red" last year (1972) nor the year before (1971). What happened was my Executive Committee decided each of the above years to award a bonus at the end of the year. Since the bonus amounted to over \$2,000, that gift put us into the red "on paper" but not in actual running of the club.

Frankly, I was glad when we ended up in the "red." Profits in clubs these days attract the IRS and properly. I have been checked by them four times but recently they have left me alone.

I hope that your son Marston and his bride will use the club a lot - and not from time to time, as you suggest.

Once again, thanks for your interest. Yours was the only letter I have received so far, and I appreciate it. What I should do is to resign and let them play with it.

With warmest regards,

Your old friend,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. Hickman Price, Jr.  
High Tide  
Ocean Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

0579

14 June 1973

Gentlemen:

I obtained twenty tickets for the Pinto car raffle at the Rair. I have now sold ten of the raffle books - this leaves me with ten to go. I will send these in later.

I am now sending you the raffle stubs and the payments for the ten tickets sold - a total of fifty dollars (\$50.00). It is my hope that one of the tickets sold by me will win the Pinto. That will build the morale of the Navy boys and girls, and provide me with a crown of good fortune instead of thorns.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

The Preservation Society  
of Newport County  
Washington Square  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh  
Enclosures

Books enclosed -

# 1035-  
1036  
1037  
1038  
1039  
1040  
1041  
1044  
1053  
1054

0580

15 June 1973

Dear Colonel Ford:

This letter is to thank you and your Army Officers and their ladies of the Naval War College for your delightful invitation to the ceremonies on the occasion of the 198th Anniversary of the Founding of the United States Army. Needless to say, I was very impressed with all of the ceremonies not only in the vicinity of the flag staff but also at your luncheon at the Officers Club where good humor abounded. There seems to be no question but that ceremonies of this nature are a very effective boost to morale. In your case, this was particularly true, because part of your ceremony was displayed on TV and in the press.

It is too bad that you will be leaving the Naval War College shortly. Your personality and your beliefs have made a healthy imprint on the students and staff alike and you should have a chance to share in your success.

With best wishes for your future happiness, I am,

Very sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Colonel John O. Ford, USA  
United States Army Advisor  
to the President  
U.S. Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0581



ALAS!

I'm sorry I missed out on your blow

Why I did I do not know.

Perhaps it was because my maid

Hid your invitation, or so tis said,

I only found it late last week

As, at my dates, I took a peek.

By looking at the Many papers on my desk

Your invitation was there with all the rest,

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

But yours had a date of eight of June,

The others are ~~only~~ not nearly so soon.

RADM & Mrs. J.C. Wylie - 18 Jun 73

0582



## NAVAL WAR COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.

U. S. Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

25 June 1973

Dear Clyde:

This note is to tell you how sorry I am that you are retiring from the Navy. And my sorrow is not entirely for you, but is, also, for the Navy as well which will surely suffer with the departure of both its most experienced officers and its wisest. The youth movement has its place in the naval world, but so does Wisdom and, since Wisdom is a product of time and experience, it follows that very few young officers are qualified for the more responsible commands.

Well, anyway, you are retiring, possibly to your own, and your lovely Polly's delight. So, I wish you well. And there is no reason why you should not have a most happy retired life. I do all right at it, and have found it very interesting indeed, although, today as I get less able to run or jump or swim in the tank, I feel that I ought to take life easier.

I have no idea where you are planning to live. I recall that I spoke to you about it last winter and you said that that had not as yet been decided.

Finally, I want to say that I have always enjoyed my association with you, I have appreciated your many courtesies, and I have appreciated your ability, which was well recognized throughout the service. I shall miss you when I visit the 12th N.D. And yet, again, I may not, as you may decide to live in the Bay area.

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0583

VADM Clyde J. Van Arsdall, Jr., USN

25 June 1973

Page 2.

Our GSD (Global Strategy Discussions) now called CSF (Current Strategy Forum) is commencing tomorrow. It is much reduced in size and scope. Whether it will improve on the past is in the hands of the Gods!

Our weather has been foggy and is so today. It reminds me of San Francisco in July, so I am not too homesick.

With warmest hope for your future happiness, as ever,

Your old friend,



Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

VADM Clyde J. Van Arsdall, Jr., USN  
Commandant  
Twelfth Naval District  
Treasure Island  
San Francisco, California 94130

RWB/vjh

0584

28 June 1973

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

Enclosed herewith is a volume of "Before the Storm" as written by Baron Carl von Wrangell-Rokassowsky. The Baron says in his letter to me that he appreciates greatly having his book in your library. He further said that in the May issue of "American Opinion" there appeared a review of his book and since that time he has been getting 8 to 15 orders for his book per day. Although I haven't read all of it, I find that which I have read very interesting.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Mr. Donald T. Gibbs  
Redwood Library  
Bellevue Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh  
Enclosure

0585

29 June 1973

Dear Captain Quinn:

This note is to express my appreciation of your thoughtfulness in inviting me to your Aloha lunch today. I enjoyed everything - the cocktails, the luncheon menu and the after luncheon speeches. But, most of all, I enjoyed the farewell remarks by your Class Representative LCDR Isaac Benchimol, Brazilian Navy.

I shall miss seeing you pass my door daily and I shall miss the circus-like atmosphere which prevailed when the families were present.

Many thanks!

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Captain Jack Q. Quinn, USN  
Director, Naval Staff Course  
U.S. Naval War College  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0586

9 July 1973

Dear Captain Nugent:

It was very thoughtful of you and Mrs. Mugent to invite me to your Farewell Luncheon in honor of the Class of 1973, Naval Command College, and I was very happy to accept.

I thought that it was an excellent affair - perhaps a little long, but excellent, nevertheless, especially so with Admirals Colbert and Turner as participants. Your tributes to Professor August Miller were unexpected but nostalgic and very well deserved. As a result of this, the luncheon became more of an Aloha to Professor Miller than to the Class of '73 for which it was intended.

I hope that you are enjoying your new assignment.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Captain Thomas H. Nugent, Jr., USN  
Commanding Officer  
Naval Recruit Training Command  
Orlando, Florida 32813

RWB/vjh

0587

9 July 1973

Dear Mr. Muhlfield:

Thank you very much for your very thoughtful letter regarding my hospitality during your short stay in Newport. It was very kind of you to write it and I enjoyed receiving it not only to hear that you enjoyed our blubs but also to know that you enjoyed being here at our Current Strategy Seminar.

I was very surprised to discover that you are a graduate of St. George's School and have many friends in this area, notably Cordelia Kane and the Bookwalters. Cordelia loved talking to you!

Bob and his family are looking forward to their visit to the eastern seaboard this Fall. They are a very tightly knit group and seem to have a lot of fun together. Our Nation needs a little more of this!

I was sorry to hear that Mr. Hawkins had retired. He is a very fine gentleman, a good friend and, obviously, a fine authority on Management.

Once again, I was happy to see you, and I am very impressed at your continuing advancement. Stone & Webster is in safe hands!

With best reggrds, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Mr. F. Bearss Muhlfield  
500 Highview Road  
Englewood, New Jersey 07631

RWB/vjh

0588

9 July 1973

Dear Dick:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of our latest list of Founder Members. You will note that at the very end of it the names of three of your very old friends, Kathrine Warren, Kittymouse Cook and Stevie Wiman. You will also note another new one, Mr. John O'Donnell. They joined because I asked them to for your arrival here. It would be nice, if you get a chance, to write them saying you saw their names on the list and on the plaque and are very happy about it.

We were delighted to see you here and all remarks are very, very friendly.

With warmest regards to you and Prue, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

Admiral Richard G. Colbert, USN  
Commander in Chief  
Allied Forces Southern Europe  
AFSOUTH Box 1  
FPO, New York 09524

RWB/vjh  
Enclosure

0589



10 October 1973

To the President and Staff of the Naval War College I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks for the beautiful basket of fruit which you sent me. It was the cynosure of all eyes and I was forced to place bodyguards around it. The fruit basket was well done and we have needed most of the fruit, especially the oranges.

With many thanks, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

0590

10 October 1973

Dear Captain and Mrs. Nott:

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers that you sent to me at the Naval Hospital. They are delightful and have attracted many eyes.

I seem to be moving ahead here slowly - so far I have had two transfusions which I hope prove to be helpful. The general opinion is that I was quite anemic. Let's have no more of it!

Thanks again!

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Captain & Mrs. Hugh G. Nott, USN  
Quarters 2  
Jackson Road  
Fort Adams  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0591

11 October 1973

Dear Bruno and Phyllis:

Your flowers arrived in great style and created a sensation as the mums are really lovely. It was very thoughtful of you to do this and I am very appreciative. When I get out of this hospital, I will come over and thank you in person.

I'm delighted to hear that the Clambake Club had a very satisfactory buffet luncheon yesterday. We need a few successes like this to boost up the morale.

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. & Mrs. Bruno Facchini  
Clambake Club  
Easton's Point  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0592

11 October 1973

Dear Frances and Bill:

Thanks for the mums which you sent to me. They are still in full bloom and assisting to keep the sick-room bright and gay.

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

LtGEN & Mrs. William P. Ennis  
92 Rhode Island Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0593

12 October 1973

Dear Johnnie and Sophie:

How thoughtful of you to send me those beautiful red and white carnations. They are a surprisingly beautiful combination and so excited one of our black corpsmen that he asked to take six of them home to his mother.

Johnnie did come over to see me and I was delighted to see him but, if all goes well, I should be returning from the hospital tomorrow, so visitors will no longer be needed. Let's hope so!

Many thanks -

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. & Mrs. John W. Richmond  
"Seaward"  
Cliff Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0594

12 October 1973

Dear Archie and Peggy:

I have always thought that you were a wonderful pair and, therefore, I have long had an affection for you over many years. But, when your beautiful bowl of red and white carnations with fern arrived here yesterday in the Newport Naval Hospital for me, I knew that there were none better than the van Beurens. Think of it! Here you have both been suffering physical hardships and yet you have the time to think of your friends who are ill elsewhere.

May I thank you for your thoughtfulness and may I hope that when we are improved I may be invited to visit your beautiful van Beuren estate - Gray Craig.

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. & Mrs. Archbold van Beuren  
Gray Craig  
Paradise Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0595

12 October 1973

Dear Neo and Teddy:

Thank you a lot for things through my illness here in the hospital; notes, photos of you both in Europe, food stuffs. What shall I do - open a little grocery store? Anyway, they don't come any more thoughtful than the Grosvenor pair. So here's my many thanks!

I may return home tomorrow. Let's hope so!

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Mr. & Mrs. Theodore P. Grosvenor  
"Nearsea"  
Ocean Avenue  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

RWB/vjh

0596

25 October 1973

Dear Winthrop:

I am enclosing herewith a series of color snapshots taken at the Clambake Club on the evening of the President's Dinner. Those who have seen them think that the one of you making that wonderful talk, which impressed everyone, is a really fine photograph. The three other guests shown are (from the left) Hugh Auchincloss, then myself on your left and then Lt. General William P. Ennis, U.S. Army (Ret.).

Mary Whitehouse told me on Sunday that she was going to see you, that you were going yachting on your beautiful yacht and that she thought that Elinor and Slim were to be among your guests. What a lovely trip that will be, not only because it will get you out on the ocean blue and away from the dust, the filth and noise of the cities, but it will also insure a continuance of your health for another 87 years.

Happy Thanksgiving!!

As ever,  
Your old friend,

Richard W. Bates  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
President

The Honorable Winthrop W. Aldrich  
30 Rockefeller Plaza Room 5600  
New York, New York 10020

RWB/vjh  
Enclosures

0597